the reflection of His sublimest moral attributes, being the most complete in intellectual simplicity, in ethical purity, in consecrated goodness, the Supreme Being manifests Himself in a special manner from age to age through those who are known as *Elected Men*—through a host of His chosen messengers—an unbroken succession of prophets and philanthropists, to awaken the dormant senses i)f man to his birth-right, his God-given heritage, to be recognised and blessed as the son of God.

Says the Rishi of the *Kathopanishad.* {c The Self is attainable by Him alone whom it *chooses* for self-manifestation. This Self reveals its body *i.e.,* its nature to him ". The Rishi *oi the Mundaka Upanishad* echoes the same truth when he declares (< *He (the Self) is obtained by him alone whom He elects. To him, this Self reveals His o^n nature.*" Thus, in His measureless mercy and boundless grace, the Supreme Being does, in all lands and at all times, reveal Himself through *Elected Souls* (Mahatmas) as the Divinity that shapes the ends of mankind. As the sages of the world, Mahatmas are the crystals through which His light, passes to the larger humanity ; as the prophets of the world, they are the bringera

of His mercy; as the toilers of the world, they are the caterers and purveyors of His benevolence; as the sorrowing and suffering ones of the world, they are the vindicators of His compassion; as the leaders of the world, they are the finger marks, the index-lingers of His wisdom. Human history correctly construed is accordingly one continuous narration of the marvellous doings of His Divine Grace through untold channels for the perfection of humanity into His Holy Image.

History is pre-eminently a revelation of God; for, nowhere, perhaps, are the wisdom and goodness of a Divine Providence so manifest as in the apt and timely investment of talents and virtues in the accomplishment of its mysterious dispensations. In the brilliant deviation of a solitary soul from the rank corruption of its age and land; in the enthusiastic life of a patriot who saves a sinking state and